

Monday: 31 05 21

Psalm 71:18

Reflection: We find a wonderful reflection of a timeless devotion. In the Psalm we read of a steadfast endurance of faith. The writer prays to God to be able to continue showing the majesty of God to all generations. Even those that are to come.

Application: I have enjoyed fellowship in a wide range of congregations and denominations. Oddly I have found that even among Christians people can still be ageist. Judging anyone older to be past their technical use by date. With very little to offer them, they tend to politely pigeon hole them in a low category. While seeking anything new and trending.

Challenge: Can we find the importance of faith not in the surface of things, but in the wisdom of age?

Tuesday: 01 06 21

Isaiah 43:2

Reflection: The river can be deceptive and dangerous. There can be deadly under currents that are invisible on the surface. While we can look at the river it can appear to be peaceful, while stepping in we quickly get dragged off our feet and washed away. The verse tells us that God is always there through all the rivers of life that we will traverse.

Application: Each day we cross a range of virtual rivers. Conversations may seem to be normal, yet can quickly turn dangerous. With an undertow of pride and anger, we find ourselves in need of God.

Challenge: Take time to consider conversations with others. Remember God is there to help you..

Wednesday: 02 06 21

John 16:33

Reflection: The world is full of turmoil; as Christians we are guaranteed basically two things. The joy of Salvation and the persecution of the world. Through it all Jesus the Christ has set us aside to be both blessed and reconciled with God our Father. Jesus reminds us that although we face a world full of threats, His peace will comfort us through it all. For he has overcome the world and we are strengthened by this fact.

Application: I have times when I feel in the darkest pit of lonely despair. When the light from above seems so far from me. Yet Jesus is always there

Challenge: When the world seems the darkest for you, can you still feel the Lord's presence?

Thursday: 03 06 21

Deuteronomy 31:1-6

Reflection: The journey through the wilderness is almost over. Moses tells the people that he will not cross the Jordan. Moses is 120 years old and tells them he is too old to keep leading them. He does remind them the God has always been with them. And that He will go forth and prepare the way.

Application: How different would we live if we took complete acceptance that God has prepared the way for each of us? How many problems would we face with the assurance that God has already prepared the way for us?

Challenge: How many challenges in life can we face reassured that God has gone prepared a way?

Friday: 04 06 21

Matthew 8:26

Reflection: The boat is made of wood. The seas are full of rage and fury. The winds toss the boat about like a small bit of cork. The disciples are frantically bailing water in fear they will sink and drown. And the Lord is asleep in the bow. They beg him to help bail water from the boat. Yet they are rebuked by Jesus for their lack of faith. As we have read in Deuteronomy 31:1-6, their faith would have sufficed to calm the storm.

Application: Once again we find how our weak faith can be broken in a difficult physical world of challenges and pain.

Challenge: Take time to make a list of things you can trust God to help you with. Do you believe?

Saturday: 05 06 21

2 Corinthians 12:6-9

Reflection: Paul writes of a 'thorn' that tormented him. He tells us that he prayed that Jesus would take the thorn from him. Yet he is reassured that the Grace of Jesus would be enough for him. In fact it is only through Paul's weakness that He is able to be made perfect in Paul.

Application: Pride is a painful and subtle enemy of everyone. Christians are not exempt from the folly of relying in their own strengths. Like Paul we each have a personal thorn that should be there to remind us of our reliance on Jesus.

Challenge: What is your personal 'thorn'. How can it remind you of your blessed weakness?

Lord I praise your Holy name

Sung to Rejoice Hymn 477



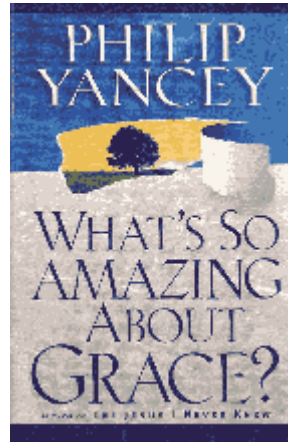
Lord I praise your Holy name.
All your works I will proclaim.
From the morning through the night.
I'll stay always in your light.

You are now my truest friend.
On you Lord I can depend.
Though dear Lord I may be weak.
It's you strength that I now seek.

For in my darkest hour.
I'm safe within your power.
Let the world know that I'm saved.
All my sins you have thus laved.

When I finally come to rest.
I pray Lord to pass the test.
So the world may know the truth.
And seek you while in their youth.

MJ Flack



What's so amazing about Grace?

Author: Philip Yancey

Publisher: Harper Collins

ISBN: 0-310-23346-1

Subject: Theology/Counselling

I found this book not quite as easy to read as I may have first expected. The subject of Grace has perhaps, not been one of the easiest to consider with the vast divergence of opinions. But I do feel that Philip Yancey has approached it with candour and a good sense of the Spirit.

Perhaps readers should sometimes look for books that will challenge them rather than support already set ideals, beliefs and opinions. Otherwise we may all become stagnated in our faith. We at times need to step out of our comfort zones and delve into the meatier subjects that the Bible has for maturing Christians. This book is just such a consideration.

M J Flack

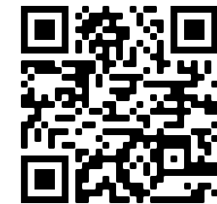
Six days to Sunday



Stepping Stones of Faith

24 05 21

*We believe in the Bible over all of life
and that Salvation is: In Christ alone,
by Grace alone, through Faith alone.*



Our Church Website

<http://bowenfelspresbyterianparish.org.au>